

Ganesha

The Scribe

my friend
GANESHA



KIDS

Ganesha

The Scribe



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THIS IS THE STORY OF LORD GANESHA, THE ELEPHANT
HEADED GOD KNOWN FOR HIS WISDOM AND INTELLIGENCE.



MANY YEARS AGO, IN A VILLAGE CALLED PALI, IN THE DISTANT LAND OF SINDH, LIVED A LITTLE BOY WHO WAS A STAUNCH DEVOTEE OF LORD GANESHA.



HE WAS CALLED BALLAL.



BALLAL LIVED WITH HIS PARENTS. HIS FATHER WAS CALLED KALYAN AND HIS MOTHER WAS CALLED INDUMATI.



BALLAL WAS UNLIKE OTHER BOYS OF HIS AGE. HE SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME WORSHIPPING GANESHA, INSTEAD OF PLAYING.

ONE DAY, BALLAL WENT OUT TO PLAY WITH HIS FRIENDS IN THE FOREST.

WHAT SHALL WE PLAY, BALLAL?

WHAT IS THIS?

THIS IS A STONE, I SUPPOSE.

JUST THEN...



AND SO, THE LITTLE BOYS GATHERED SOME WILD FLOWERS AND BEGAN WORSHIPPING THE STONE.

THE CHILDREN WERE SO ENGROSSSED IN THE WORSHIP OF LORD GANESHA THAT THEY HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE TIME.



MEANWHILE, THE PARENTS OF THESE LITTLE CHILDREN WERE WORRIED AS IT WAS QUITE LATE.



AND SO, THEY WENT TO BALLAL'S HOUSE AS IT WAS HE WHO HAD LED THE CHILDREN.

GOOD EVENING, BROTHER. HAS YOUR SON, BALLAL RETURNED FROM HIS PLAY?

NO, I AM AFRAID HE HAS NOT RETURNED AS YET.

JUST THEN...

WHERE IS BALLAL? BRING HIM TO US!

SEEING THAT THEIR SONS HAD NOT RETURNED HOME, THE PARENTS HAD ALL GATHERED AT BALLAL'S HOME.

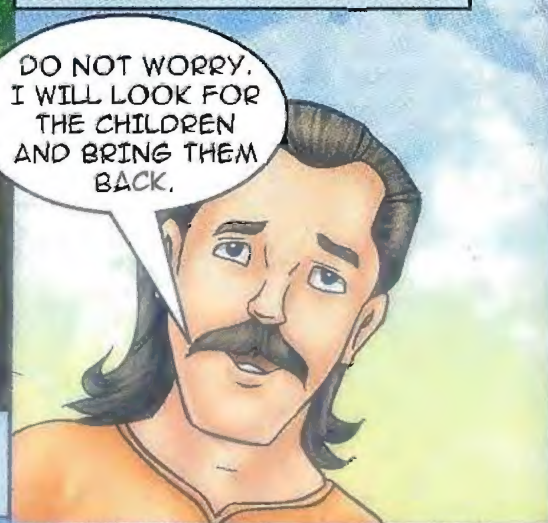
WHERE IS BALLAL? PLEASE CALL HIM. WE WISH TO ASK HIM ABOUT OUR MISSING CHILDREN!

KALYAN AND INDUMATI WERE ANXIOUS AT THIS SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS.



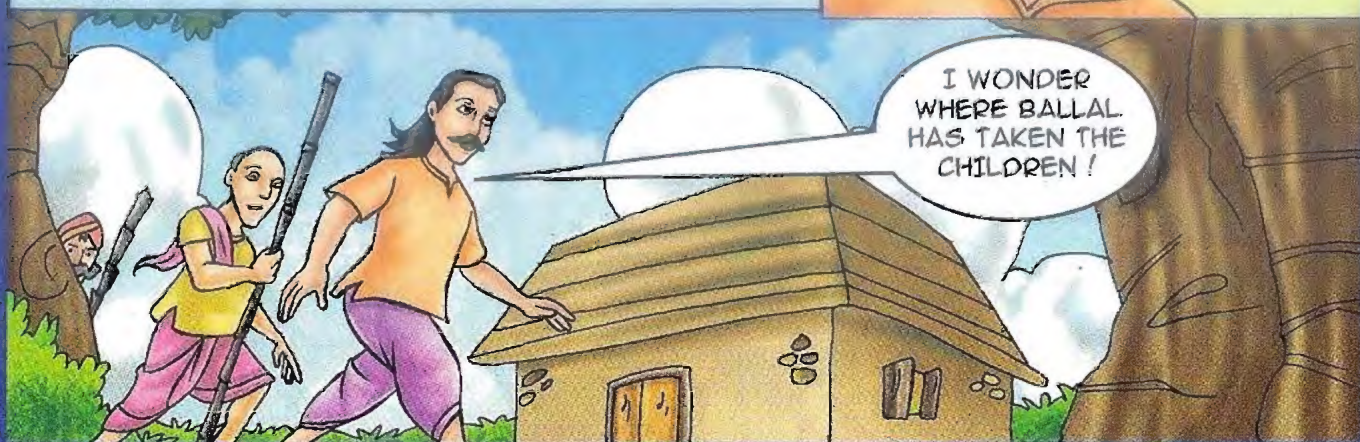
EVEN WE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT OUR SON, BALLAL! HE HAS NOT RETURNED YET.

BUT REPEATING THIS TO THE WORRIED PARENTS WAS PERHAPS NOT ENOUGH. SO...



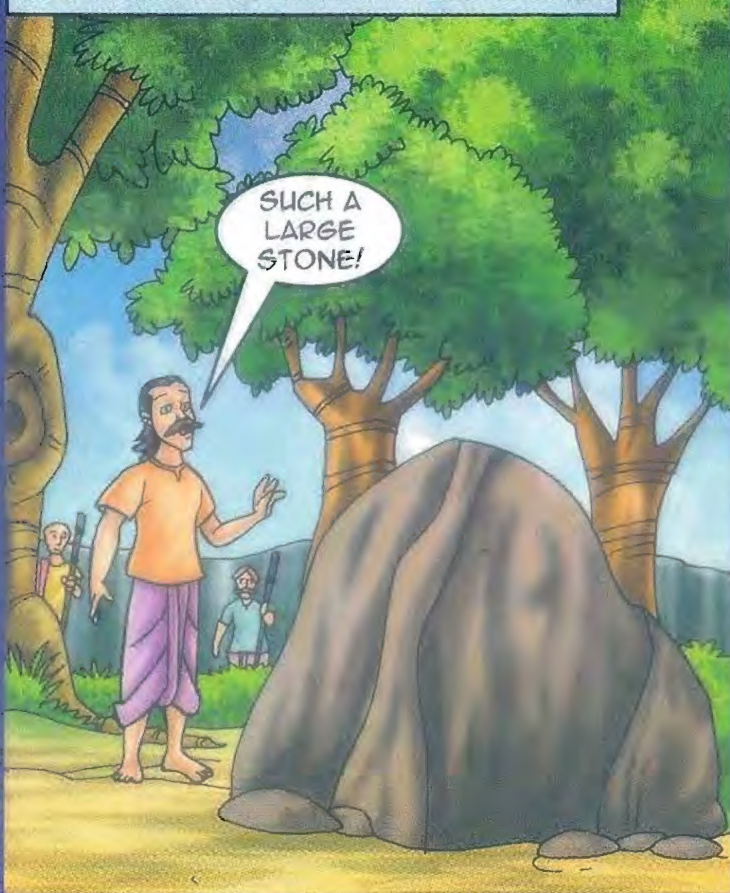
DO NOT WORRY. I WILL LOOK FOR THE CHILDREN AND BRING THEM BACK.

THOUGH IT WAS QUITE LATE, KALYAN WENT TO THE NEARBY FOREST WHERE BALLAL USUALLY WENT TO PLAY.



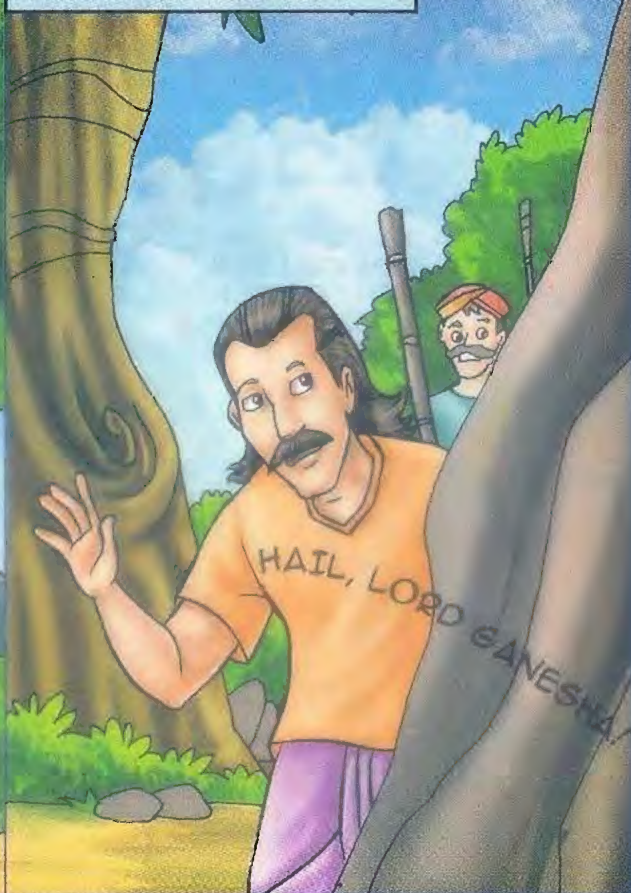
I WONDER WHERE BALLAL HAS TAKEN THE CHILDREN!

SUDDENLY, HE NOTICED A HUGE STONE.



SUCH A LARGE STONE!

JUST THEN, HE HEARD...



HAIL, LORD GANESHA!

WITH SILENT STEPS, KALYAN WENT TO SEE WHAT WAS BEHIND THE STONE.

WHEN HE REACHED THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STONE, HE WAS SURPRISED.



BALLAL!
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

FATHER,
WE WERE
WORSHIPPING
LORD
GANESHA.

WORSHIPPING
LORD
GANESHA OR
THIS HUGE
STONE?

YOU LITTLE
ROGUES! RUN
BACK HOME
OR I WILL
PUNISH YOU.

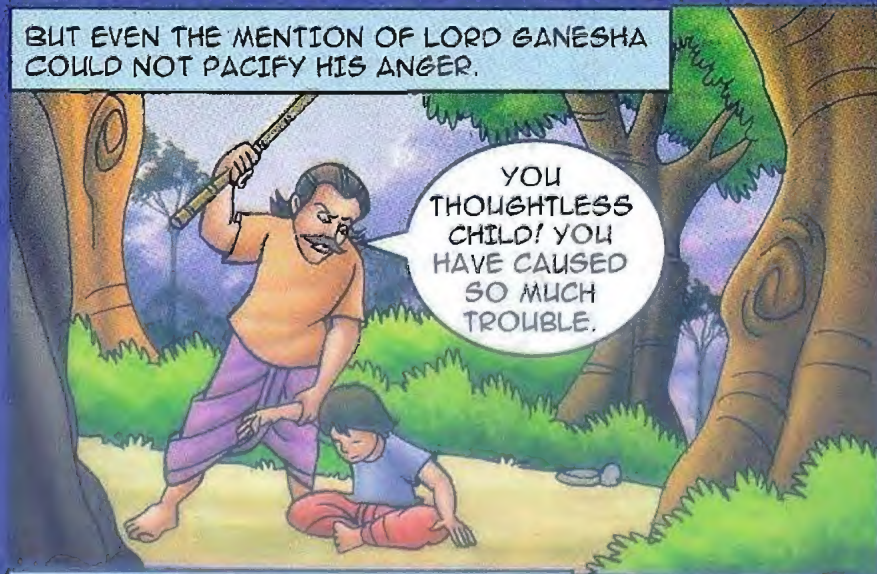
THOUGH THE FRIENDS OF BALLAL COULD ESCAPE THE FURY OF HIS FATHER, BALLAL COULD NOT.

FATHER, I
WAS ONLY
WORSHIPPING
LORD GANESHA.

IT IS DUE TO YOU
THAT I HAVE BEEN
INSULTED BY THE
WHOLE VILLAGE!

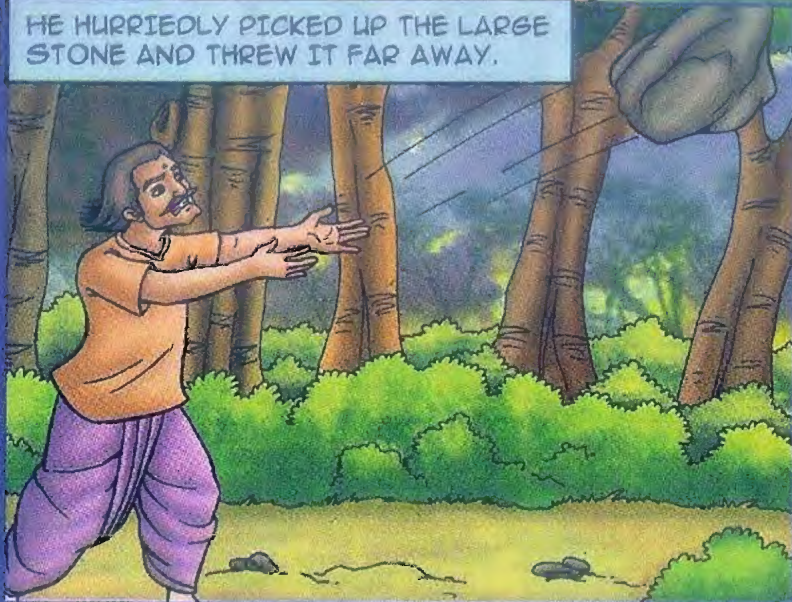


BUT EVEN THE MENTION OF LORD GANESHA
COULD NOT PACIFY HIS ANGER.

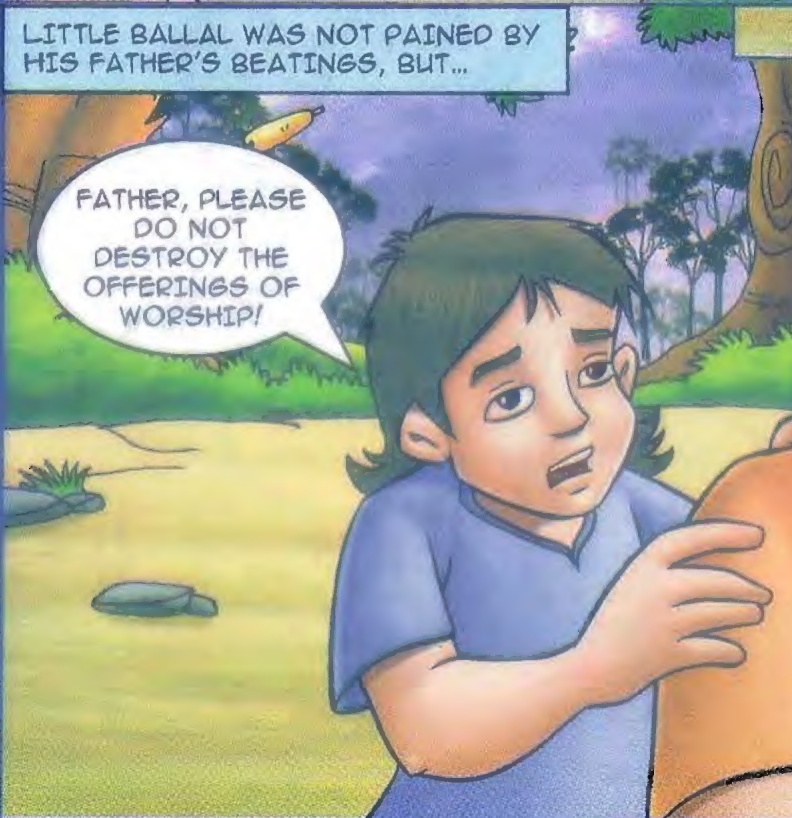


YOU
THOUGHTLESS
CHILD! YOU
HAVE CAUSED
SO MUCH
TROUBLE.

HE HURRIEDLY PICKED UP THE LARGE
STONE AND THREW IT FAR AWAY.



LITTLE BALLAL WAS NOT PAINED BY
HIS FATHER'S BEATINGS, BUT...

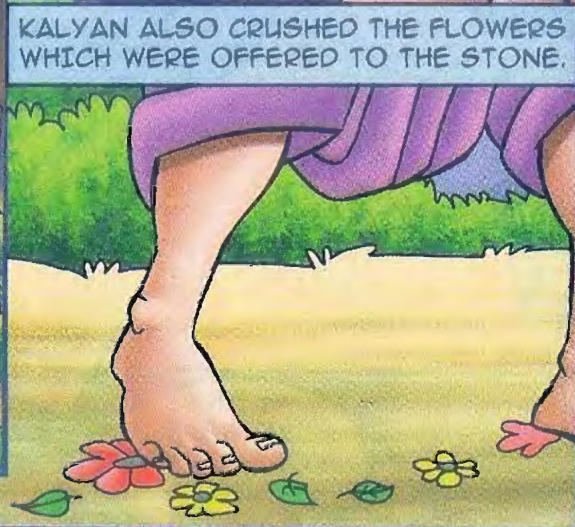


FATHER, PLEASE
DO NOT
DESTROY THE
OFFERINGS OF
WORSHIP!

EVEN AFTER DELIVERING
SUCH A HEARTLESS
TREATMENT, KALYAN WAS
NOT SATISFIED.

NOW YOU
WAIT AND SEE
WHAT I DO TO
YOU AND TO
YOUR GANESHA!

KALYAN ALSO CRUSHED THE FLOWERS
WHICH WERE OFFERED TO THE STONE.



BUT BALLAL'S EFFORTS WERE ALL IN VAIN.

AFTER THIS, KALYAN LEFT ANGRILY, LEAVING LITTLE BALLAL IN THE FOREST, ALONE!

LET ME SEE HOW LORD GANESHA SAVES YOU NOW! STAY HERE FOR THE NIGHT.

A LITTLE LATER...

O GANESHA, HELP ME. I AM TERRIBLY HURT.

LORD GANESHA, GRANT ME ENDLESS FAITH IN YOU.

BUT DUE TO HIS FATHER'S EXCESSIVE BEATING, BALLAL LOST HIS CONSCIOUSNESS SOON AFTER.

MEANWHILE, GANESHA, WHO WAS AWARE OF BALLAL'S DEVOTION, DECIDED TO HELP HIM.

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GO AND ANSWER THE PRAYERS OF THIS LITTLE CHILD.

SO, HE DESCENDED TO EARTH IN THE GUISE OF AN OLD BRAHMIN.

AS LORD GANESHA WISHED TO RELIEVE HIS DEVOTEE FROM ALL HIS PAINS, HE GAVE HIS DIVINE TOUCH AND...

BALLAL, ARISE MY SON.

LORD GANESHA'S HEALING TOUCH REVIVED BALLAL.

MAY YOU BE RELIEVED FROM ALL PAIN!

YOU WERE MERCILESSLY BEATEN BY YOUR FATHER FOR WORSHIPPING LORD GANESHA

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO ME? WHERE AM I?

YES, I DO REMEMBER NOW. BUT WHO ARE YOU?

BUT HIS DEEP DEDICATION TO LORD GANESHA, MADE HIM AWARE OF THE ACTUAL IDENTITY OF THE OLD MAN.



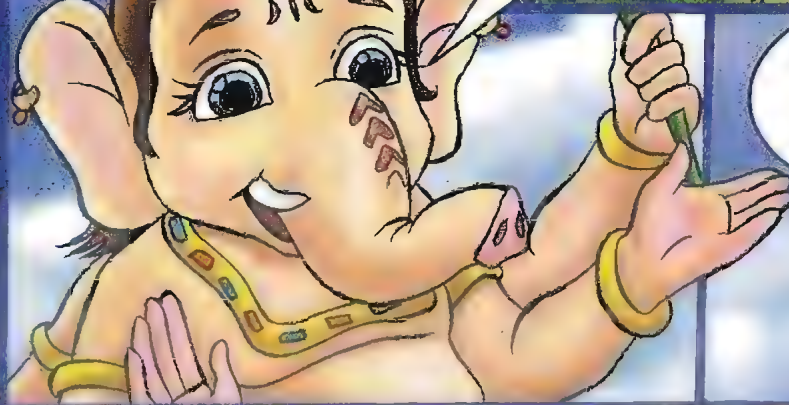
I HAVE RECOGNIZED YOU, MY LORD! PLEASE ACCEPT MY REGARDS.

BALLAL, I AM TOUCHED BY YOUR DEVOTION. ASK FOR A BOON AND IT WILL BE GRANTED.

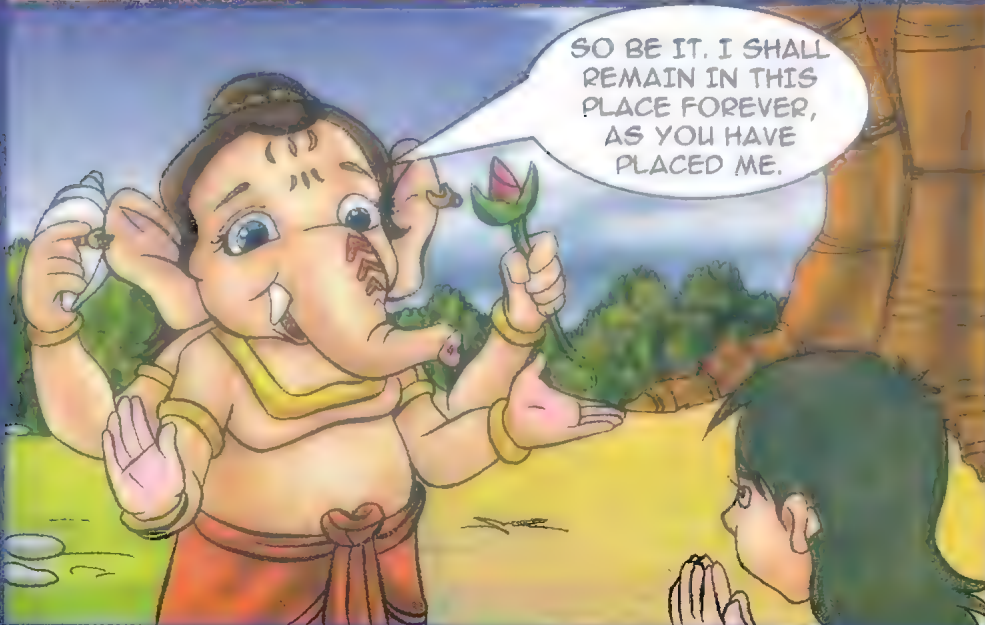
AT THIS, LORD GANESHA TRANSFORMED INTO HIS ORIGINAL FORM.



I WISH, LORD, THAT MY DEVOTION TOWARDS YOU SHOULD BE UNDISTRACTED.



SO BE IT. I SHALL REMAIN IN THIS PLACE FOREVER, AS YOU HAVE PLACED ME.

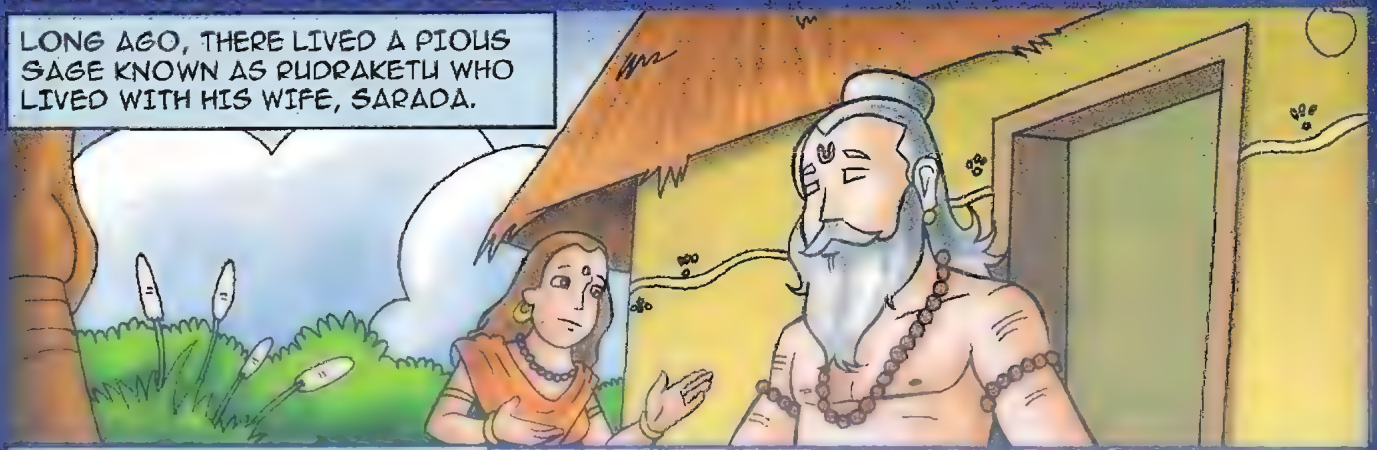


AND I SHALL TAKE YOUR NAME. THE WORLD WILL CALL ME BALLAL VINAYAK.

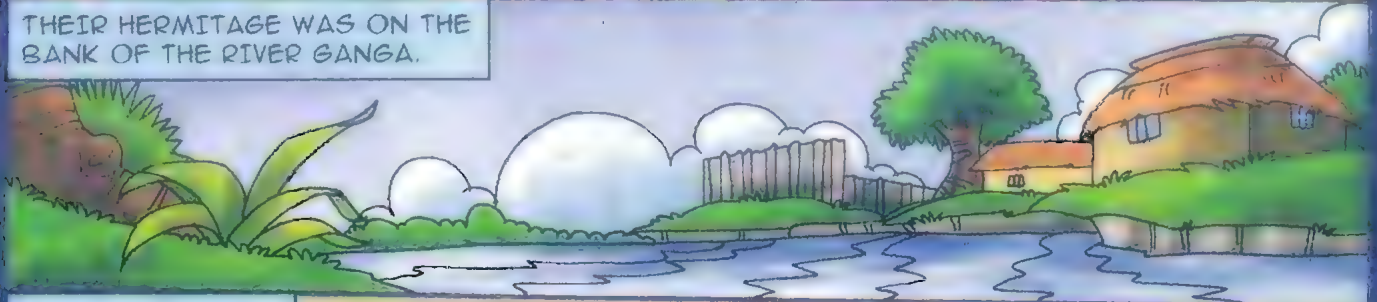


THE STONE, ONCE WORSHIPPED BY BALLAL, IS KNOWN EVEN TODAY AS BALLALESHWAR.

LONG AGO, THERE LIVED A PIOUS SAGE KNOWN AS RUDRAKETU WHO LIVED WITH HIS WIFE, SARADA.



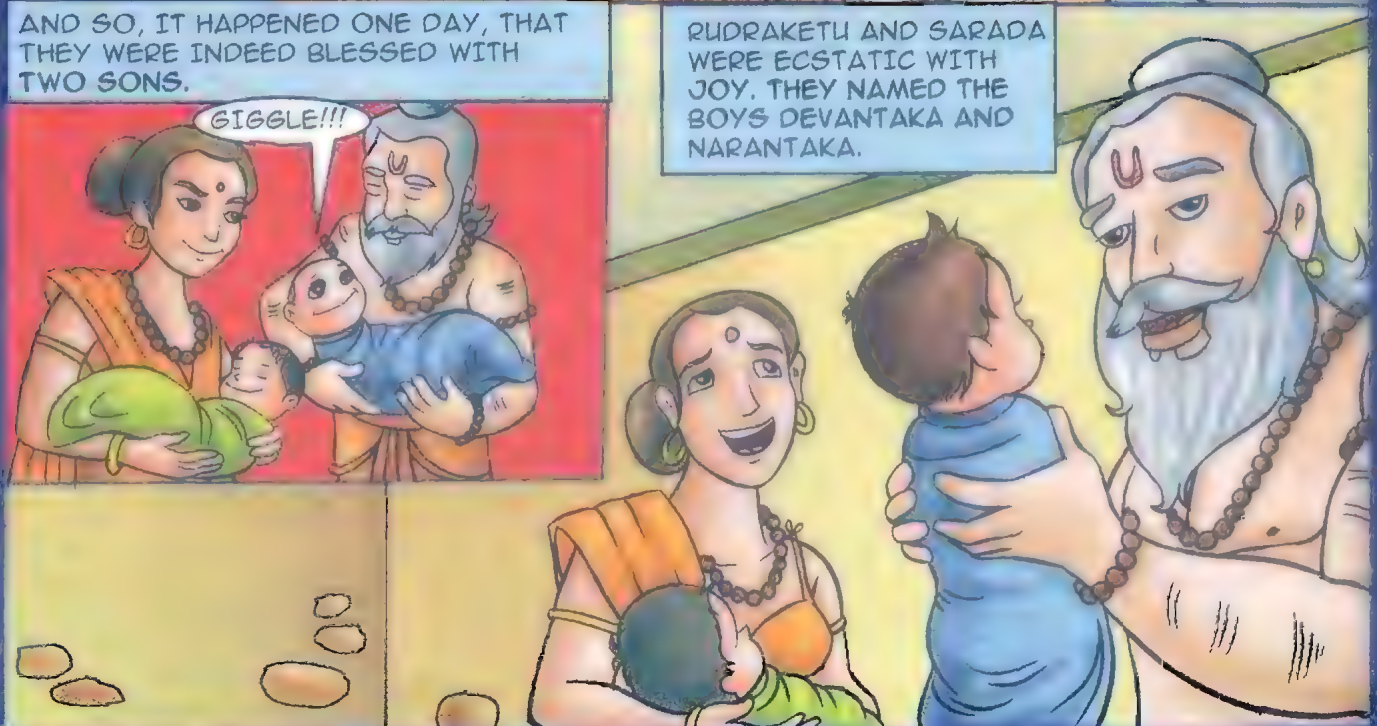
THEIR HERMITAGE WAS ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER GANGA.



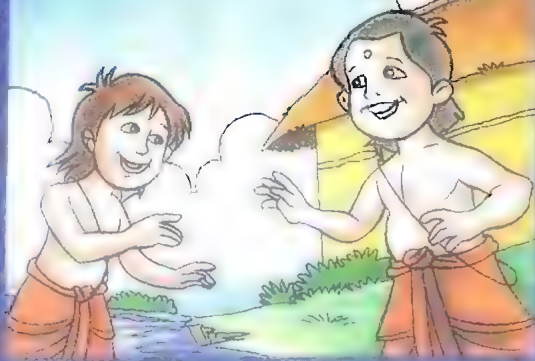
YEARS PASSED, BUT SAGE RUDRAKETU AND SARADA HAD NO CHILDREN.



AND SO, IT HAPPENED ONE DAY, THAT THEY WERE INDEED BLESSED WITH TWO SONS.



TIME WENT BY, AND THE TWO LITTLE BOYS GREW UP INTO FINE YOUNG LADS.



FROM THEIR CHILDHOOD, THEIR PARENTS NOTICED THAT THE CHILDREN HAD A LOT OF DEVOTION FOR LORD SHIVA.



ONE DAY...

BROTHER, DON'T YOU THINK THAT LORD SHIVA IS SUPREME AMONG ALL THE GODS?

UNDOUBTEDLY!



BROTHER, LET US MEDITATE ON LORD SHIVA.

IF HE IS PLEASED, HE WILL ASSUREDLY GRANT US A BOON.



WHEN THEY SHARED THIS NOBLE THOUGHT WITH THEIR PARENTS, THEY WERE VERY HAPPY.

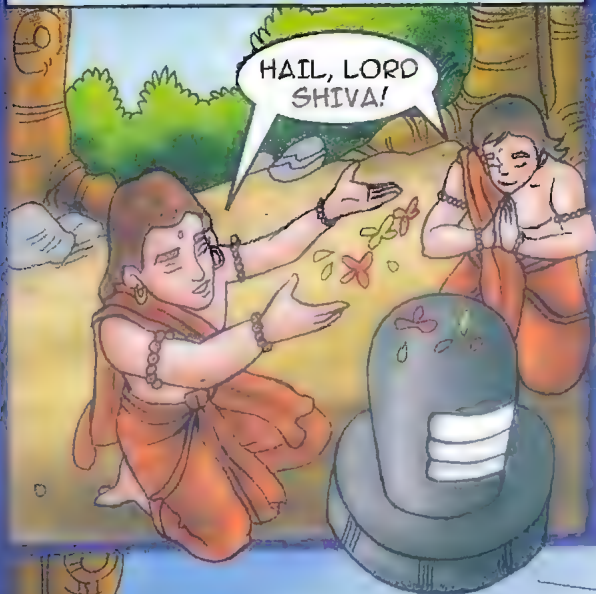
BLESS US BOTH, SO THAT WE ARE ABLE TO PLEASE LORD SHIVA



AND SO, THE TWO BROTHERS DEPARTED TO THE FOREST TO MEDITATE.



NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN DEEP MEDITATION.



HAIL, LORD SHIVA!

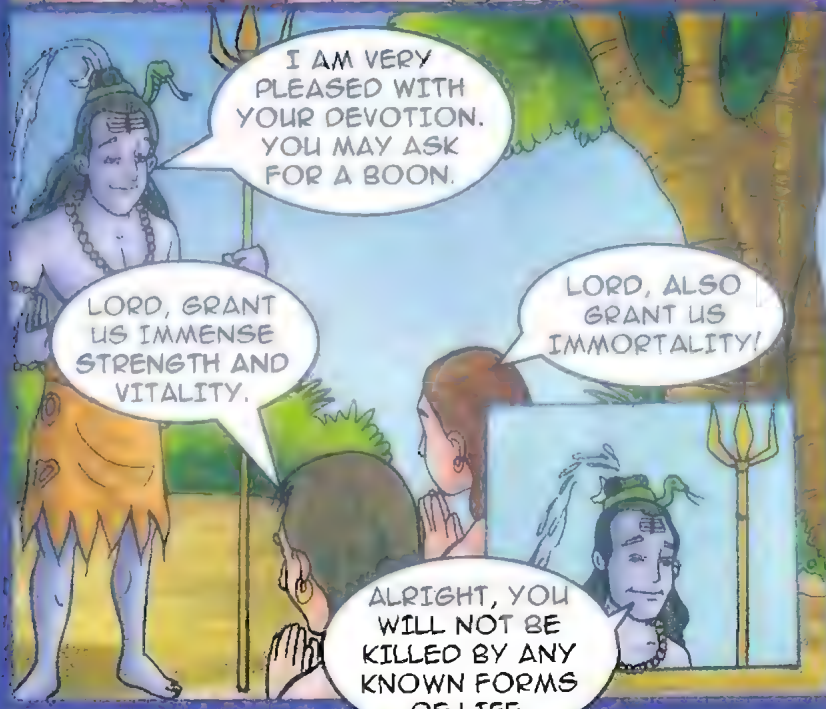
AND EVENTUALLY...

OPEN YOUR EYES, DEVANTAKA AND NARANTAKA! I HAVE COME.



LORD, YOU HAVE COME!

PLEASE ACCEPT OUR ADULATION, LORD!



I AM VERY PLEASED WITH YOUR DEVOTION. YOU MAY ASK FOR A BOON.

LORD, GRANT US IMMENSE STRENGTH AND VITALITY.

LORD, ALSO GRANT US IMMORTALITY!

ALRIGHT, YOU WILL NOT BE KILLED BY ANY KNOWN FORMS OF LIFE.

SAYING THIS, LORD SHIVA DISAPPEARED.



CHEERFULLY, THE TWO BROTHERS RETURNED HOME.

MOTHER, FATHER, WE ARE BACK WITH THE BLESSINGS OF LORD SHIVA!

A FEW DAYS PASSED AND DEVANTAKA AND NARANTAKA BEGAN TO FEEL THAT THEIR LIVES WERE MISAPPLIED. ONE DAY...

BROTHER, I FEEL WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING WORTHWHILE.

YES, YOU ARE RIGHT. WE SHOULD MAKE USE OF LORD SHIVA'S BOON.

WE SHOULD CONQUER ALL THE THREE WORLDS AND BECOME THEIR MASTERS.

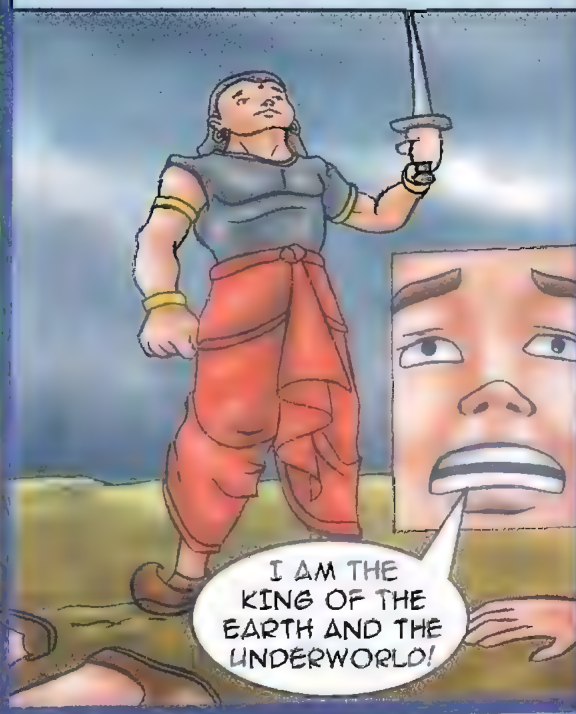
WE SHOULD USE THE BOON OF IMMORTALITY AND STRENGTH WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED, TO DO SO.

THE MOMENT THIS VILE THOUGHT CREPT INTO THEIR MINDS, THEY PREPARED TO CONQUER THE THREE WORLDS.

AND THUS, STARTED THEIR CRUEL BEHAVIOUR ON EARTH.



IN A SHORT WHILE, NARANTAKA ASSUMED POWER OVER THE UNDER WORLD AND THE EARTH.



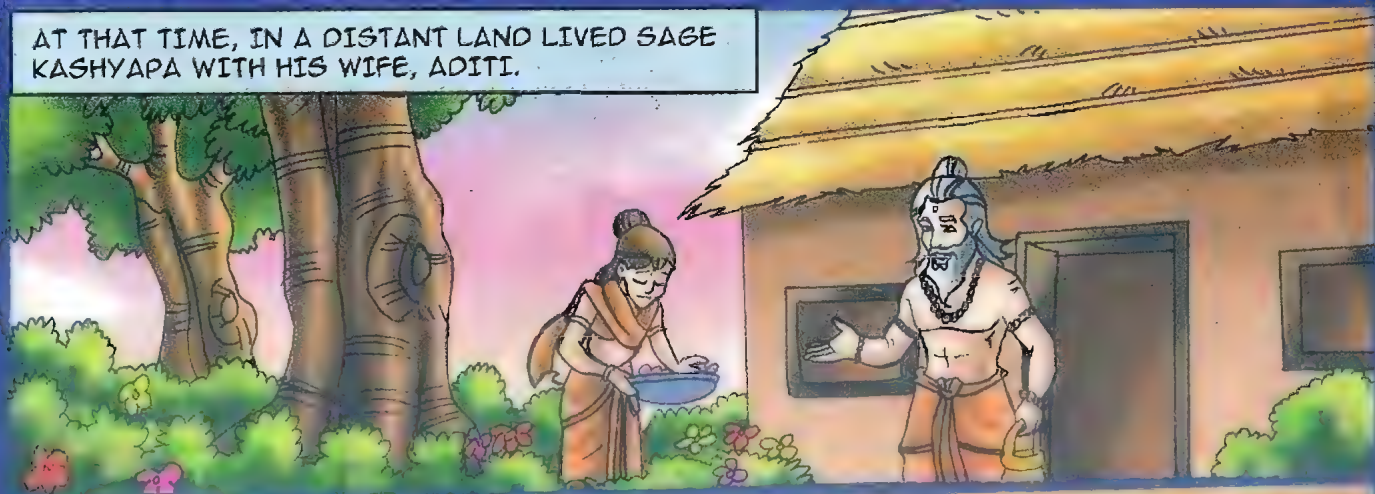
MEANWHILE, DEVANTAKA DEFEATED THE GODS IN A MIGHTY BATTLE AND CONQUERED HEAVEN AS WELL.



DUE TO THE EVIL BROTHERS, THE EQUILIBRIUM OF THE UNIVERSE WAS TOTALLY DISTURBED.



AT THAT TIME, IN A DISTANT LAND LIVED SAGE KASHYAPA WITH HIS WIFE, ADITI.



LORD, I HAVE A WISH WHICH IS NOBLE, THOUGH DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.

YOU MAY CONFIDE IT TO ME, ADITI.

LORD, I HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO MANY GODS IN THEIR HUMAN FORMS, EXCEPT, LORD GANESHA.

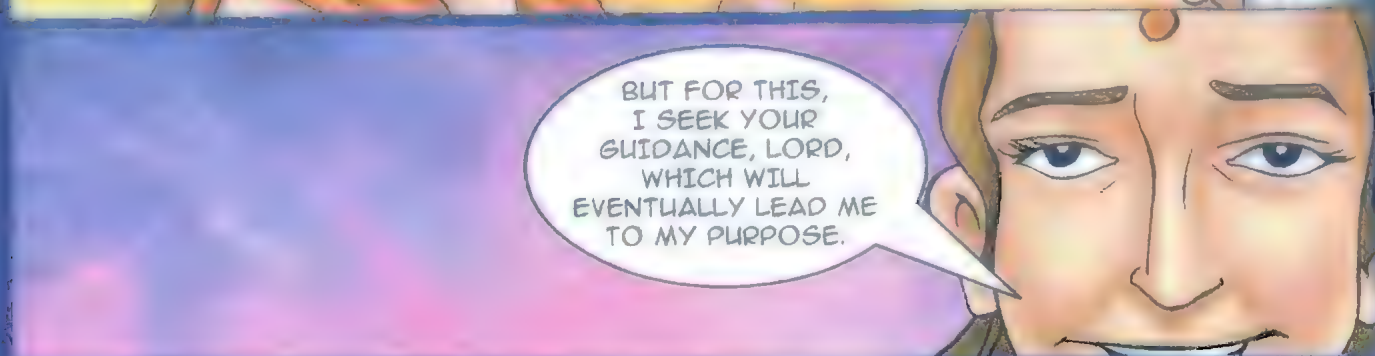


I WISH TO HAVE LORD GANESHA AS MY SON SO THAT, I CAN SERVE HIM EVERYDAY WITH MY LOVE AND CARE.

A GOOD THOUGHT INDEED!



BUT FOR THIS, I SEEK YOUR GUIDANCE, LORD, WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY LEAD ME TO MY PURPOSE.





TO FULFILL YOUR DESIRE, ADITI, YOU HAVE TO PRACTICE SEVERE PENANCE AND MEDITATE TO PLEASE LORD GANESHA.

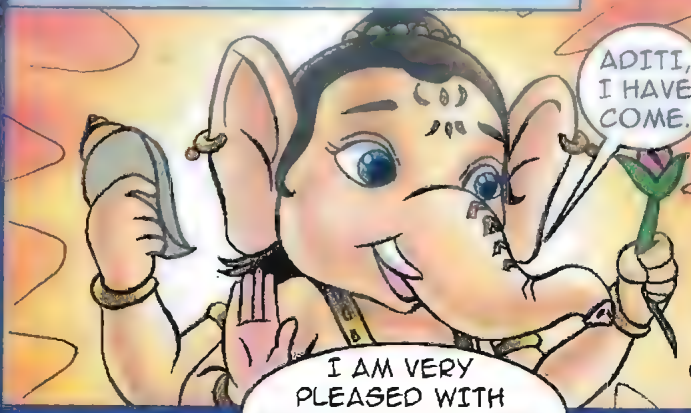
I AM PREPARED FOR ANYTHING, MY LORD.

AND SO, ADITI BEGAN TO MEDITATE TO GET GANESHA AS HER SON.



HAIL, LORD GANESHA!

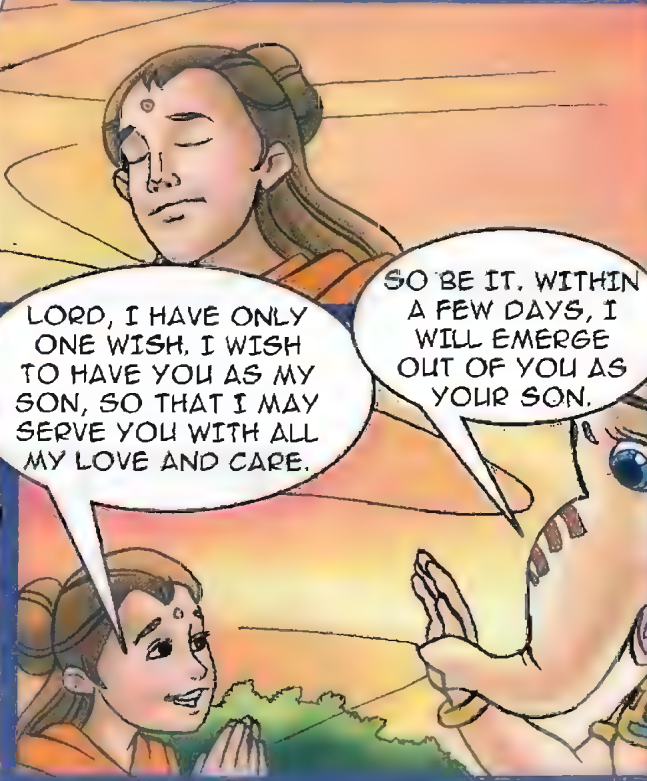
A LONG TIME PASSED, AND ONE DAY...



ADITI, I HAVE COME.

I AM VERY PLEASED WITH YOU. YOU MAY ASK FOR A BOON.

I AM GRATEFUL THAT YOU HAVE ANSWERED MY PRAYERS.



LORD, I HAVE ONLY ONE WISH. I WISH TO HAVE YOU AS MY SON, SO THAT I MAY SERVE YOU WITH ALL MY LOVE AND CARE.

SO BE IT. WITHIN A FEW DAYS, I WILL EMERGE OUT OF YOU AS YOUR SON.

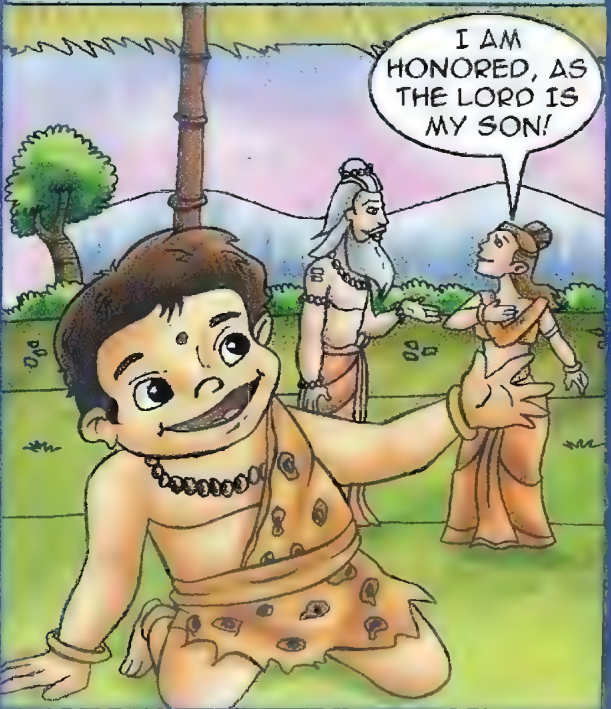


GANESHA THOUGHT IT WISE TO DESCEND TO THE EARTH AS ADITI'S SON AS IT WOULD SERVE TWO PURPOSES.

BY BEING BORN AS ADITI'S SON, I CAN ALSO PUT AN END TO THE EVIL POWER OF NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA.



THOUGH LORD GANESHA HAD ASSUMED A HUMAN FORM, THE DIVINITY ON HIS FACE WAS UNMISTAKABLE.



AND SO, ONE FINE DAY, ADITI GAVE BIRTH TO A SON.



NOW, THIS BLESSED NEWS SPREAD FAR AND WIDE.



SAGES FROM DISTANT LAND CAME TO BLESS THE CELESTIAL CHILD.



DO YOU KNOW THAT LORD GANESHA HAS BEEN BORN TO SAGE KASHYAPA IN THE MORTAL FORM?

MEANWHILE, IN A DISTANT LAND, NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA GREW ANXIOUS DUE TO THE BIRTH OF LORD GANESHA IN THE HUMAN FORM.

YES, I KNOW. THIS COULD BE THREATENING FOR US.

LET US SEND SOME DEMONS TO KILL THE CHILD!

BUT I THINK WE SHOULD LET THE CHILD GROW A LITTLE AND THEN DECIDE WHAT TO DO.

AND SO, LORD GANESHA, IN HIS HUMAN FORM GREW UNDER THE CARE OF SAGE KASHYAPA. HE WAS NAMED MAHOTKATA.



FROM HIS VERY CHILDHOOD, MAHOTKATA DISPLAYED EXTRAORDINARY PHYSICAL STRENGTH.

ARE YOU HAVING FUN?



MAHOTKATA'S UNUSUAL STRENGTH WAS FURTHER DISPLAYED WHEN HE KILLED THE DEMONS SENT TO KILL HIM, ONE DAY.

BROTHER, LITTLE MAHOTKATA IS LORD GANESHA FOR CERTAIN.

NOW THESE DEMONS WERE SENT BY NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA TO SLAY LITTLE MAHOTKATA.

AHH! IT'S LORD GANESHA FOR SURE.



YES, YOU ARE RIGHT! IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANY MORTAL BEING TO KILL OUR COMPANIONS.

MANY YEARS PASSED, AND ONE DAY THE KING OF KASHI CAME TO SAGE KASHYAPA'S HERMITAGE.

ACCEPT MY ADULATION, SAGE KASHYAPA. I WISH TO HAVE YOUR BENIGN PRESENCE AT MY PALACE ON A VERY SPECIAL OCCASION.

O RESPECTED SAGE, IT IS THE AUSPICIOUS OCCASION OF MY SON'S WEDDING!

BUT WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THIS INVITATION, YOUR MAJESTY?

BUT SAGE KASYAPA COULD NOT ACCEPT THIS INVITATION.

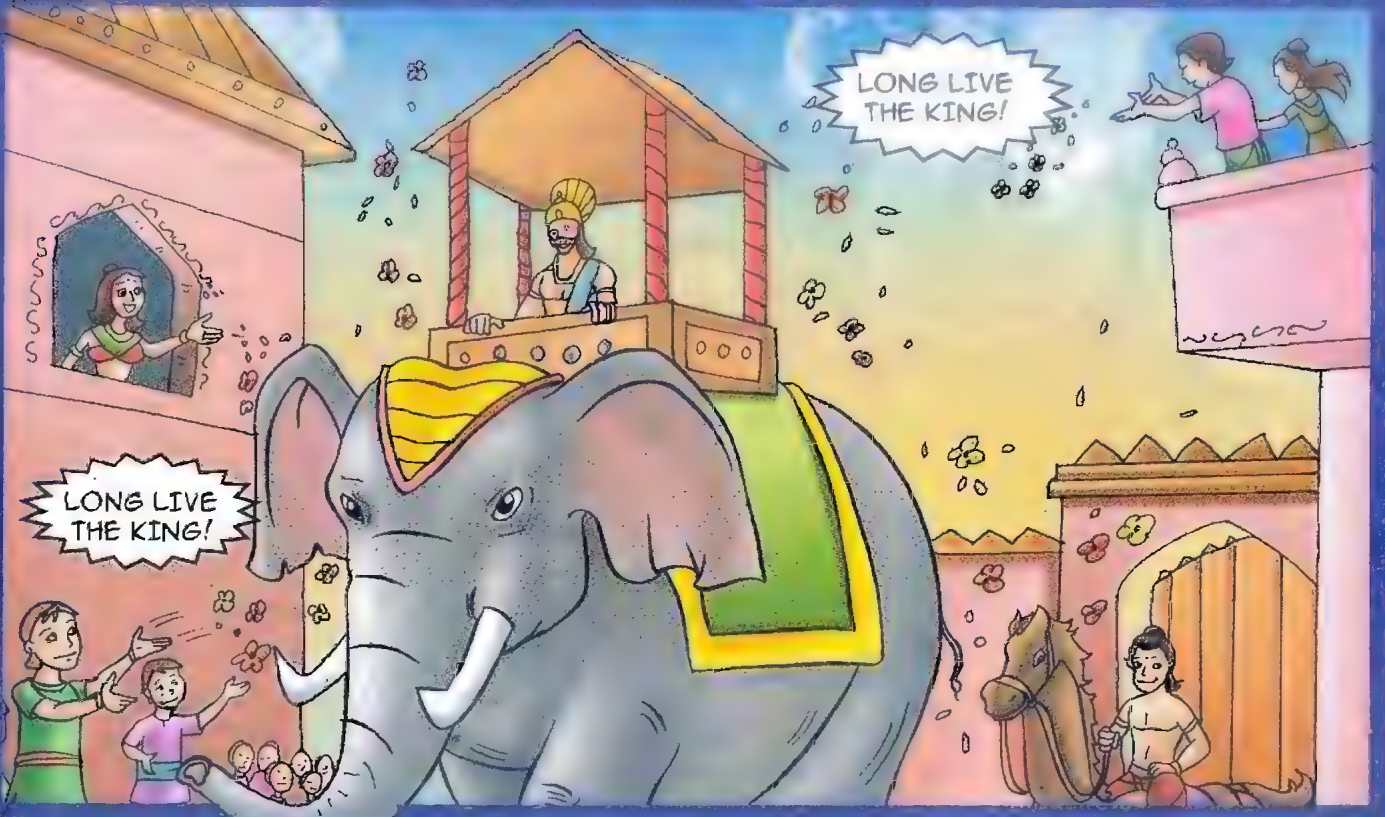
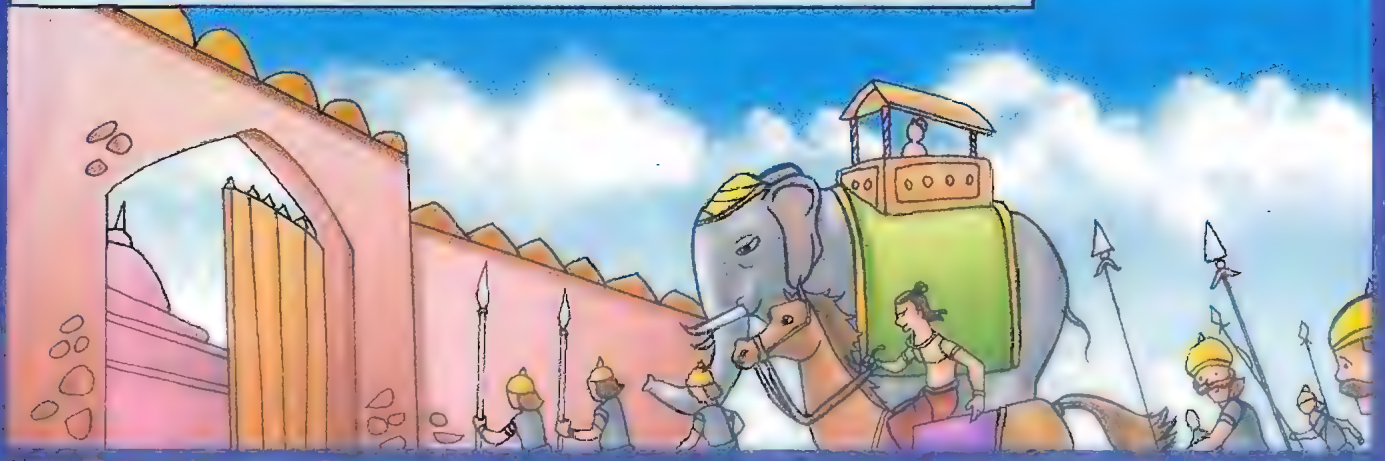
THOUGH IT IS A MATTER OF GREAT HAPPINESS, BUT I APOLOGIZE AS I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND!

BUT WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF THIS REFUSAL, O SAGE?

IT IS DUE TO SOME RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE HERMITAGE. BUT I WILL SEND MY SON, MAHOTKATA WITH YOU.

AND SO, MAHOTKATA ACCOMPANIED THE KING TO HIS KINGDOM IN KASHI, INSTEAD OF HIS FATHER.

AFTER A LONG AND TIRING JOURNEY, THEY FINALLY REACHED KASHI.



MAHOTKATA WAS RECEIVED BY THE ROYAL FAMILY WITH A LOT OF HONOR.

WITHIN A FEW DAYS, MAHOTKATA BECAME VERY POPULAR IN KASHI.



FRIEND MAHOTKATA,
WE HAVE HEARD THAT
YOU POSSESS UNUSUAL
STRENGTH. CAN YOU GIVE
US A DEMONSTRATION?

OF COURSE!

AND SO...

THIS EXTRAORDINARY
ACTION OF MAHOTKATA
SURPRISED EVERYONE.

THIS IS
UNBELIEVABLE!

WHEN MAHOTKATA
RETURNED TO THEM...

WHO ARE YOU,
FRIEND? YOU CANNOT
BE AN ORDINARY
HUMAN BEING!

VERY SOON, THE TALES OF MAHOTKATA'S
STRENGTH SPREAD THROUGHOUT KASHI.

HAVE YOU SEEN
MAHOTKATA? HE
IS NO COMMON
HUMAN BEING!

YES, YOU
ARE RIGHT.

MEANWHILE, IN A DISTANT LAND, NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA WERE GROWING ANXIOUS, HEARING ABOUT MAHOTKATA'S UNUSUAL STRENGTH.

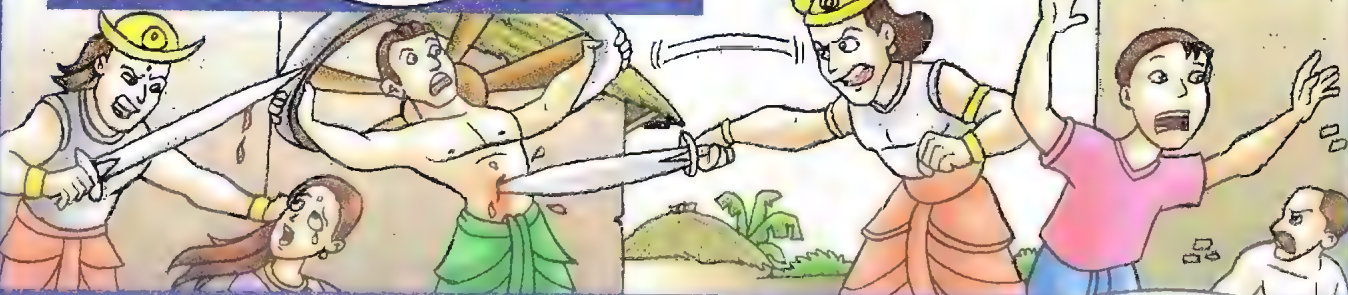
BROTHER, WE SHOULD HAVE ENDED THE LIFE OF MAHOTKATA WHEN HE WAS YOUNG. NOW IT'S TOO LATE

YOU ARE RIGHT, BROTHER!

I THINK WE SHOULD ATTACK KASHI SUDDENLY, AND PUT AN END TO MAHOTKATA.

THIS IS A BRILLIANT IDEA!

AND SO, THE VERY NEXT DAY, NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA ATTACKED KASHI.



THE KING WAS INFORMED ABOUT THIS SUDDEN ATTACK.

YOUR MAJESTY, OUR KINGDOM HAS BEEN INVADDED BY THE FEROCIOUS DEMONS, NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA!

NOW WHAT SHALL WE DO?

FATHER, I THINK WE SHOULD INFORM MAHOTKATA. HE WILL SURELY FIND A WAY.

AND SO, MAHOTKATA WAS SUMMONED.

MY REGARDS, YOUR MAJESTY. I WAS TOLD THAT YOU NEEDED TO TALK TO ME.

OUR KINGDOM HAS BEEN ATTACKED BY NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA, THE FIERCE DEMONS. CAN YOU HELP US SAVE OUR KINGDOM?

GATHER THE ARMY, YOUR MAJESTY. WE SHALL FIGHT THEM!

A LARGE ARMY WAS GATHERED AND FINALLY NARANTAKA AND DEVANTAKA CONFRONTED MAHOTKATA.

YOUR END IS NEAR. YOU HAVE CREATED ENOUGH DESTRUCTION.

JUST THEN, MAHOTKATA TRANSFORMED HIMSELF INTO HIS ORIGINAL FORM!

MAHOTKATA, I SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU LONG BACK!

WHO ARE YOU? YOU CANNOT HARM ME!

I AM MAHOTKATA GANESHA. I POSSESS THE FORM OF A HUMAN AND AN ELEPHANT. HENCE, I CAN END YOUR LIFE AS I AM NEITHER!

SAYING THIS, MAHOTKATA GANESHA HURLED HIS AXE AT THE EVIL DEMON.

I RELIEVE YOU FROM ALL YOUR SINS.

AHHHHH!!

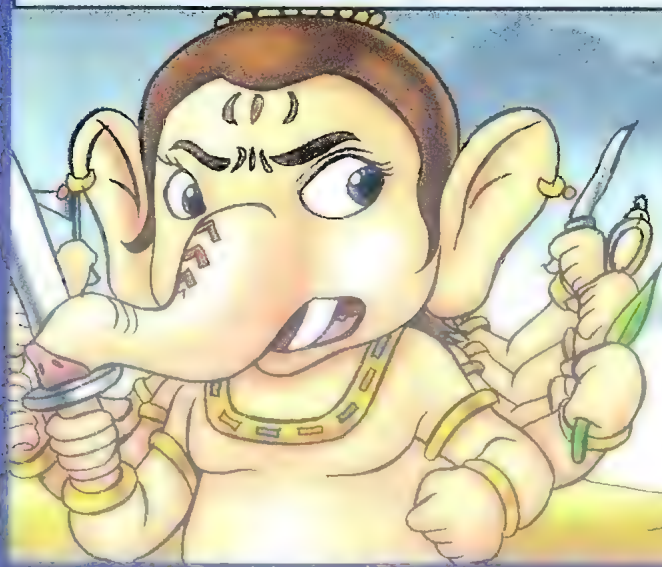
MEANWHILE, DEVANTAKA WHO WAS FIGHTING AT A DISTANCE SAW HIS BROTHER BEING KILLED.

NARANTAKA, MY BROTHER, I WILL NOT LET YOU DIE!

THE SORROW OF HIS BROTHER'S DEATH HAD NUMBED THE REASONING POWER OF DEVANTAKA. HE ATTACKED MAHOTKATA WITHOUT THINKING

BROTHER, I WILL AVENGE YOUR DEATH!

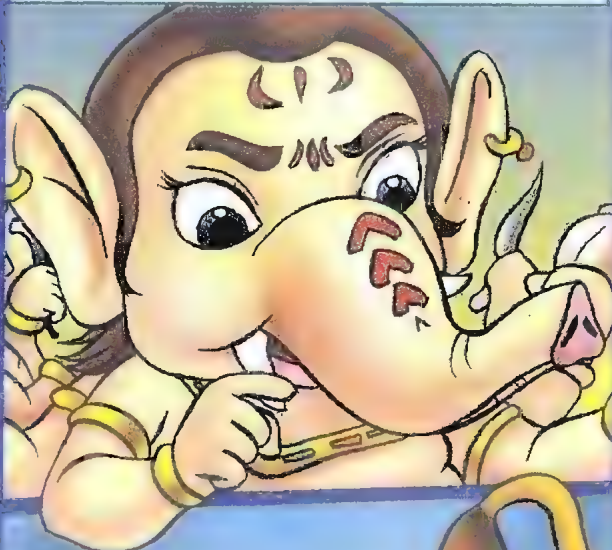
WHEN HE WAS ABOUT TO REACH MAHOTKATA...



MAHOTKATA, YOU CANNOT KILL ME. I AM INVINCIBLE!



WHEN DEVANTAKA CAME NEAR, MAHOTKATA BROKE ONE OF HIS TUSKS.

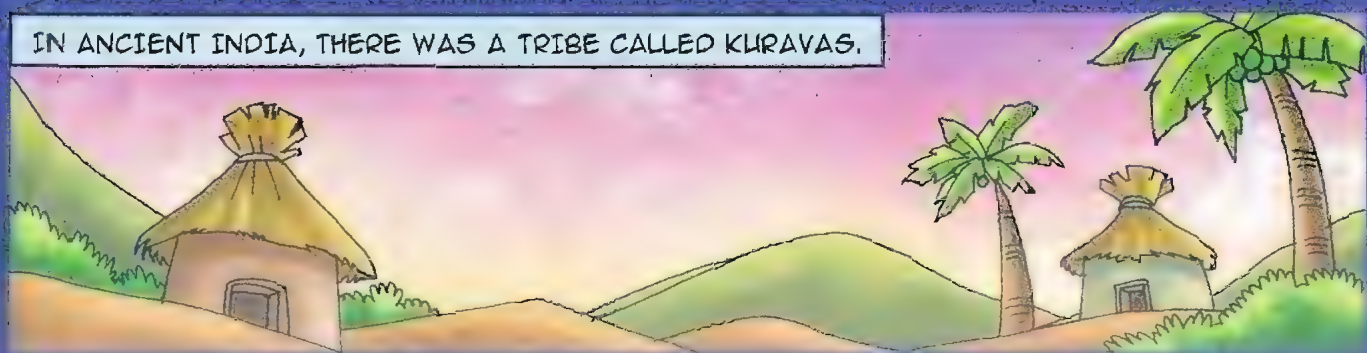


THE NEXT MOMENT, HE THREW THE BROKEN TUSK AT DEVANTAKA WHICH HIT HIM ON HIS HEAD AND...



THUS, THE LIFE OF BOTH THE BROTHERS WAS ENDED BY LORD GANESHA IN HIS MAHOTKATA FORM.

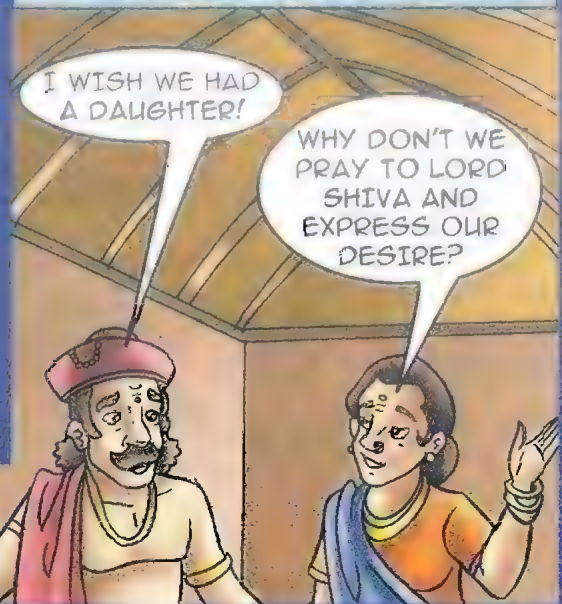
IN ANCIENT INDIA, THERE WAS A TRIBE CALLED KURAVAS.



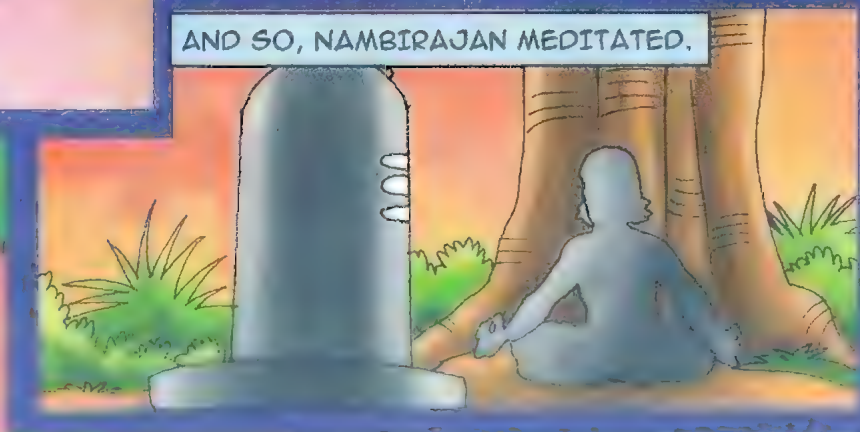
IT WAS RULED BY A KING CALLED NAMBIRAJAN.



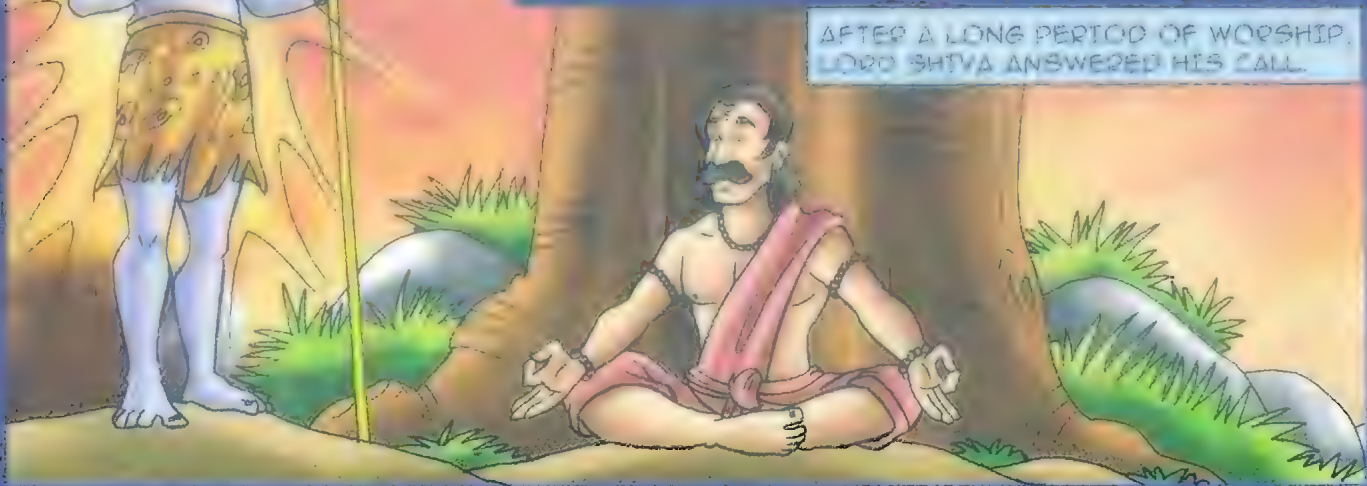
NOW KING NAMBIRAJAN HAD SONS, BUT HE LONGED FOR A DAUGHTER.



AND SO, NAMBIRAJAN MEDITATED.



AFTER A LONG PERIOD OF WORSHIP, LORD SHIVA ANSWERED HIS CALL.





NAMBIRAJAN, I AM VERY PLEASED WITH YOUR DEVOTION, I WISH TO GRANT YOU A BOON.

A scene showing Lord Shiva on the left, with a white complexion, wearing a yellow dhoti and a garland of beads. He holds a yellow staff in his right hand and has his left hand in a blessing gesture. Nambirajan is on the right, seen in profile, looking towards Shiva. The background is a warm, orange-hued sky with radiating lines.

MY ADULATIONS, LORD! LORD, I WISH TO BE BLESSED WITH A DAUGHTER!



SO BE IT! GO TO THE NEARBY FOREST. YOU WILL FIND A BABY GIRL UNDER A TREE. BRING HER UP AS YOUR OWN DAUGHTER.

A close-up of Lord Shiva's face, showing his white complexion, dark eyes, and a third eye on his forehead. He has a serene expression.

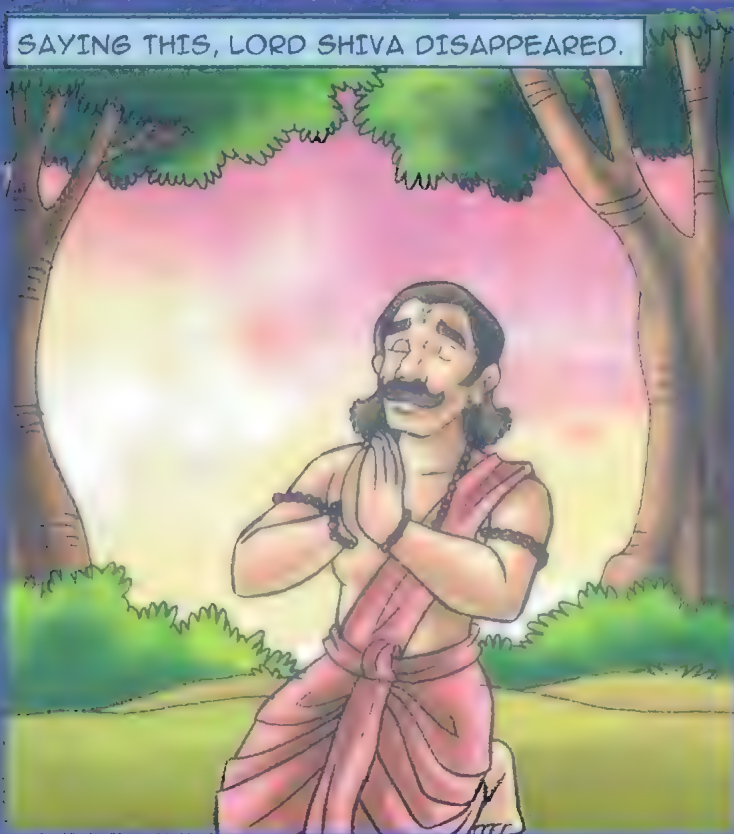


I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU, MY LORD.

A smaller inset panel showing Nambirajan with a mustache, wearing a yellow dhoti, with his hands in a prayer position (Anjali Mudra). The background is a soft, pinkish-purple sky.

SAYING THIS, LORD SHIVA DISAPPEARED.

NAMBIRAJAN RETURNED HOME WITH A CHEERFUL HEART.



MY QUEEN WILL BE VERY HAPPY!

Two panels showing Nambirajan in a forest. In the left panel, he is standing with his hands in a prayer position, looking upwards. In the right panel, he is walking, looking thoughtful. Both panels show him wearing a yellow dhoti and a garland of beads. The background features green trees and a warm, orange-hued sky.

ON RETURNING HOME...

QUEEN, I HAVE RECEIVED A BOON FROM LORD SHIVA. WE WILL SOON GET A DAUGHTER.

THANK THE LORD!

THE NEXT MORNING, NAMBIRAJAN LEFT FOR THE FOREST.

THOUGH NAMBIRAJAN WAS WEARY DUE TO THE LONG WALK, YET HE CONTINUED. SUDDENLY...

LORD, WHERE WILL I FIND THE BABY GIRL?

WHAT IS THAT? IS IT A BABY?

HE WALKED TOWARDS IT WITH STEADY STEPS.

LET ME GO
AND SEE
WHAT IT IS!

NAMBIRAJAN WAS
DELIGHTED TO SEE
THAT HIS DESIRE
FOR A BABY GIRL
WAS FINALLY
FULFILLED.

HAPPILY, NAMBIRAJAN STARTED FOR
HOME WITH THE BLESSED BABY GIRL.

I HOPE IT
IS THE BABY
GIRL WHICH
LORD SHIVA
PROMISED.

WHAT A
PRETTY GIRL!

WHEN HE REACHED HOME...

MY QUEEN,
THIS IS OUR
DAUGHTER.

WE ARE SO
FORTUNATE,
LORD!

AND SO, NAMBIRAJA AND
HIS WIFE BROUGHT UP THE
LITTLE GIRL. THEY NAMED
HER VALLIYANAKI.

YEARS PASSED AND VALLI GREW UP INTO A BEAUTIFUL GIRL.

MEANWHILE, LORD SKANDA, THE
SON OF LORD SHIVA AND PARVATI
SAW VALLIYANAKI AND WAS
ENAMORED WITH HER BEAUTY.

VALLIYANAKI
YOU ARE SO
CHARMING!

VALLIYANAKI'S DIVINE BEAUTY
HAD LEFT A DEEP IMPRESSION
ON THE MIND OF LORD SKANDA.

I BELIEVE THAT I
HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE
WITH VALLIYANAKI. I
MUST DO SOMETHING
ABOUT IT.

THE NEXT DAY, LORD SKANDA DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A BANGLE-SELLER AND DESCENDED TO EARTH.



BANGLES!
CRYSTAL
BANGLES!

PURPOSELY, HE CRIED IN FRONT OF VALLIYANAKI'S HOUSE TO LURE HER.



BANGLES!
CRYSTAL
BANGLES!

AND AT LAST, HIS EFFORTS PAID OFF.

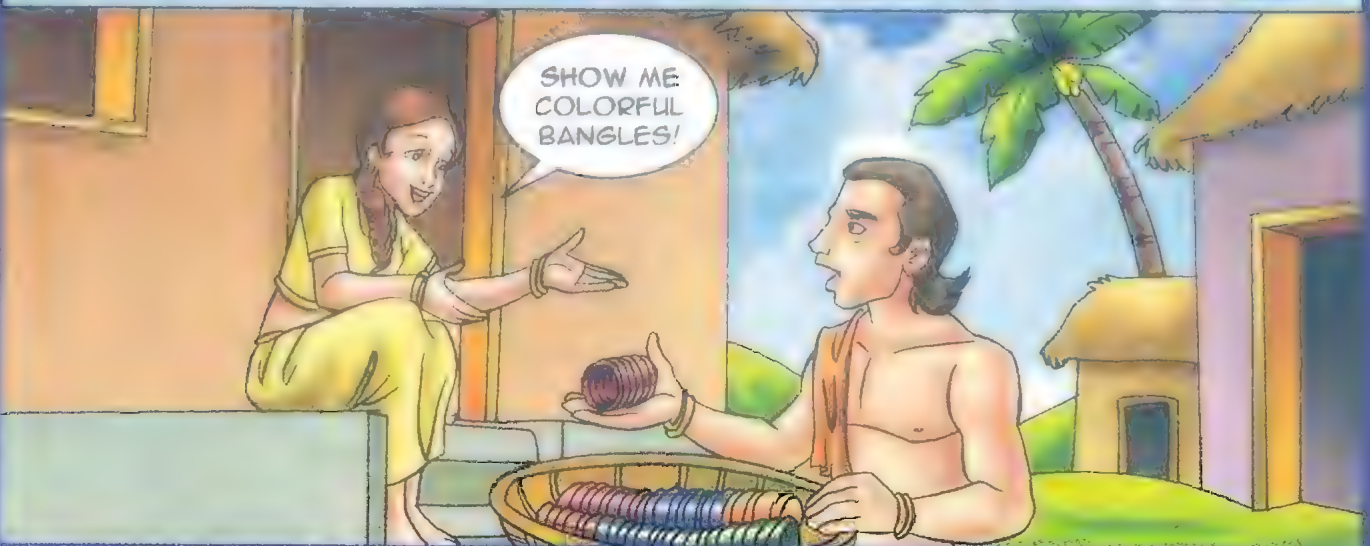


BANGLE-
SELLER, CAN
YOU COME
HERE FOR A
WHILE?



YES, OF
COURSE,
LOVELY
LADY.

LORD SKANDA'S WISH TO MAKE ACQUAINTANCE WITH VALLINAYAKA WAS THUS FULFILLED.



SHOW ME
COLORFUL
BANGLES!



THEY ARE SO BEAUTIFUL!



WHERE HAVE YOU COME FROM, BANGLE-SELLER? WHAT IS YOUR NAME?

BUT BEFORE LORD SKANDA COULD ANSWER...



OH DEAR! IT'S MY BROTHERS. YOU BETTER GO.

LORD SKANDA WAS SO TERRIFIED AT THIS SUDDEN HAPPENING, THAT HE FLED AND HID HIMSELF IN THE FORM OF A STUMP IN A NEARBY TEMPLE.

VALLIYANAKI'S BROTHERS WERE A VALIANT LOT AND THEY WERE OVER PROTECTIVE ABOUT THEIR SISTER.



A man with a mustache and a blue dhoti (Lord Skanda) is talking to a woman in a yellow sari (Valliyanaki) in a forest. He is pointing towards her.

SISTER, WHO WAS THAT?

DO NOT WORRY, BROTHER. HE WAS ONLY A BANGLE-SELLER.

LORD SKANDA WAS NOT AT ALL DISCOURAGED BY THE FAILURE OF HIS FIRST ATTEMPT. HE WENT TO THE FIELD OF MILLETS THE NEXT DAY, WHERE VALLIYANAKI WAS BUSY GUARDING THE CROP.



VALLIYANAKI, I AM YOUR GREAT ADMIRER. PLEASE ACCEPT MY LOVE.

GO AWAY OR MY BROTHERS WILL BE ANGRY WITH YOU!

JUST THEN, HER BROTHER CALLED OUT TO HER.

VALLI!
VALLI!

WHEN VALLIYANAKI LOOKED AWAY, LORD SKANDA CHANGED HIMSELF INTO AN OLD TRIBAL KING.

WHEN HER BROTHERS ARRIVED...

ACCEPT OUR REGARDS, SIR!

MAY THE LORD FULFILL ALL YOUR WISHES!

AFTER A BRIEF CONVERSATION, VALLIYANAKI'S BROTHER LEFT FOR THE FOREST TO HUNT.

VALLI, DO NOT LEAVE THE POOR OLD MAN ALONE IN THE FIELDS. DO GIVE HIM COMPANY.



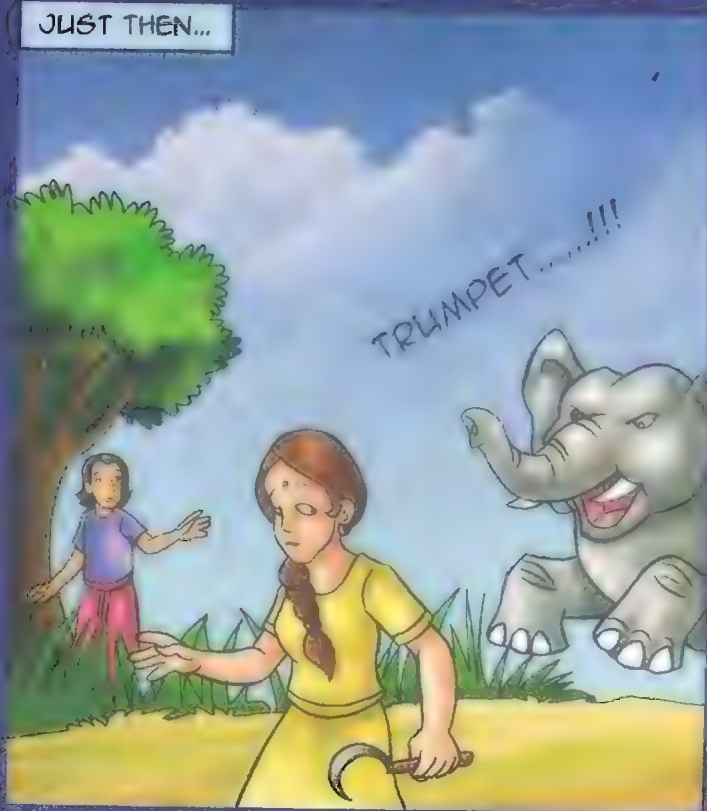
LORD SKANDA WAS MUCH HURT AT THIS.

WHAT SHALL I DO? HOW SHALL I CONVINCE VALLIYANAKI?



JUST THEN...

TRUMPET.....!!!



AS SOON AS VALLIYANAKI'S BROTHERS LEFT, LORD SKANDA ASSUMED HIS PREVIOUS FORM AGAIN AND...

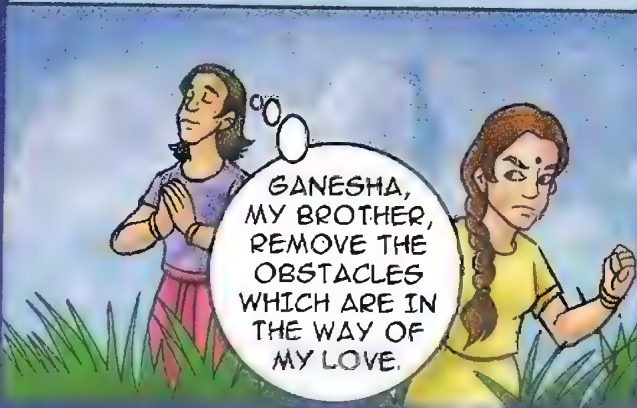
LOVELY LADY, DO ACCEPT MY LOVE FOR YOU.

GO AWAY! I DO NOT TALK TO STRANGERS.



SUDDENLY, HE REMEMBERED HIS BROTHER, GANESHA, WHO IS KNOWN AS THE REMOVER OF OBSTACLES.

GANESHA, MY BROTHER, REMOVE THE OBSTACLES WHICH ARE IN THE WAY OF MY LOVE.



VALLINAYAKI BECAME INSTANTLY AWARE OF THE IMPENDING DANGER.

HELP! HELP!



AND SO...

HELP ME,
STRANGER, OR MY
LIFE WILL END IN
A SHORT WHILE!

BEFORE VALLIYANAKI REALIZED, SHE WAS IN LORD SKANDA'S ARMS.

ACTUALLY, THE ELEPHANT WAS
LORD GANESHA IN DISGUISE!

LORD GANESHA HAD PROVED
ONCE AGAIN THAT HE WAS
INDEED THE REMOVER OF
OBSTACLES.

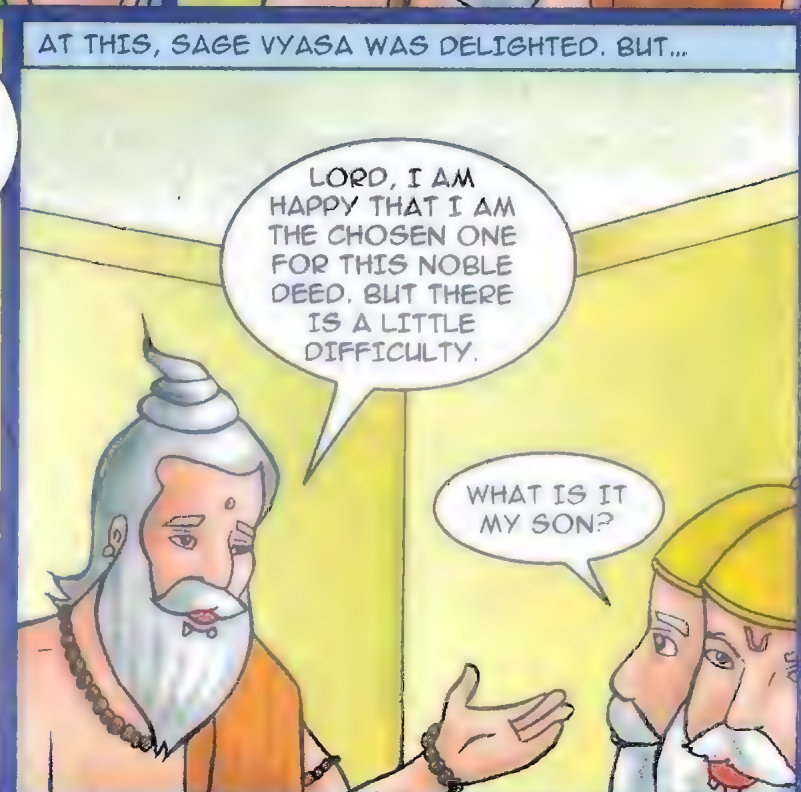
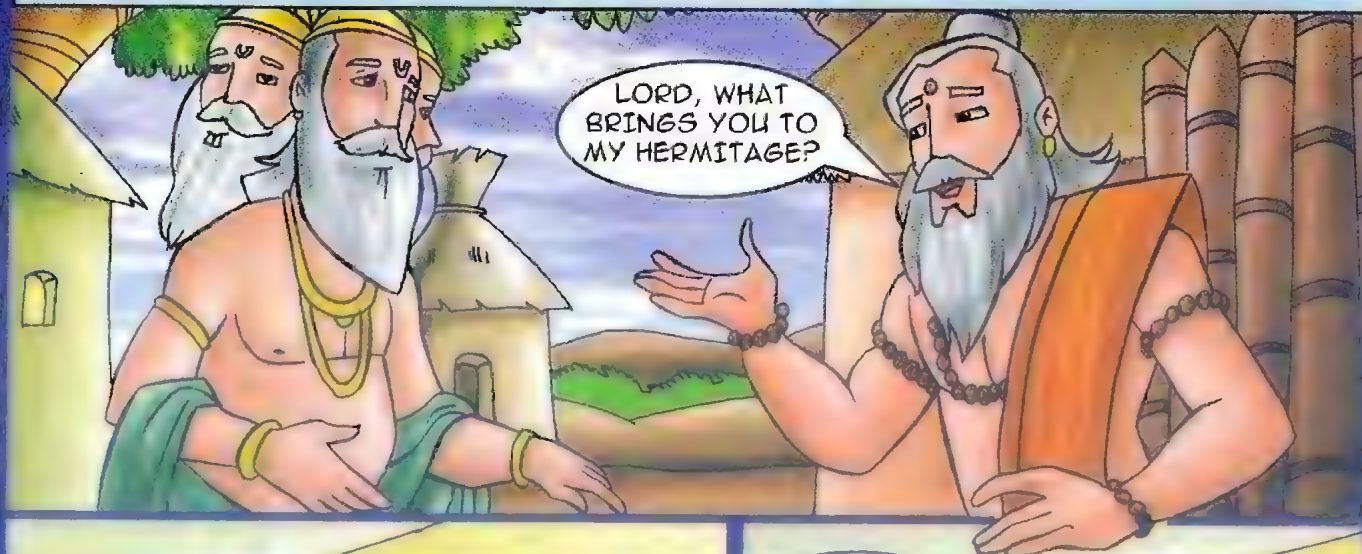
LORD SKANDA DECIDED THAT THE TIME WAS RIPE TO
SHOW VALLIYANAKI HIS CELESTIAL FORM. AND SO...

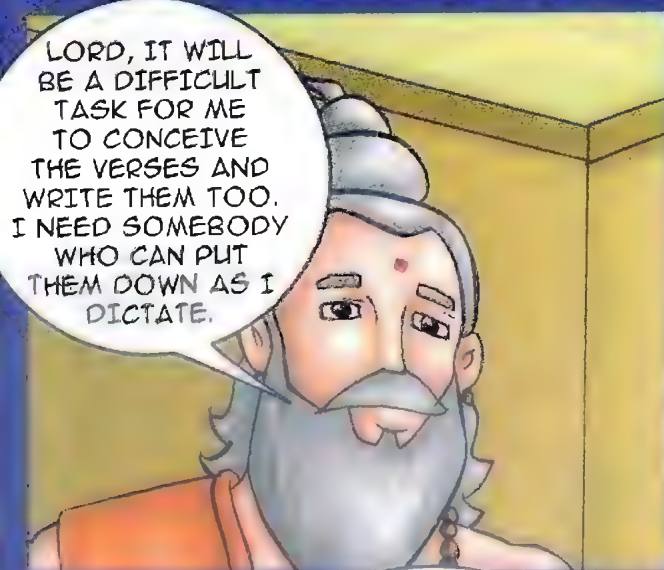
I AM GRATEFUL
TO YOU FOR
SAVING MY LIFE.

I AM SKANDA,
AND I WISH TO
MARRY YOU!

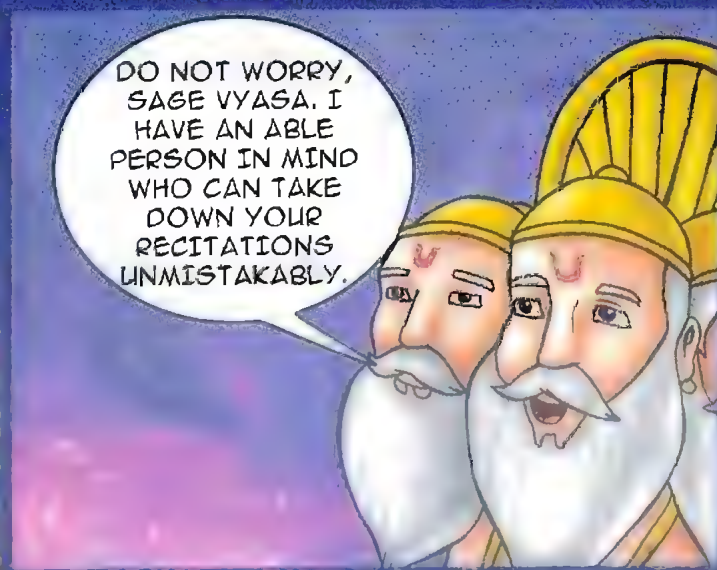
AND SOON, VALLIYANAKI
AND SKANDA WERE MARRIED.

SAGE KRISHNA DAIPAIYAN VED VYASA WAS AN EYE WITNESS TO ALL THE HAPPENINGS OF THE KURUKSHETRA WAR. ONE DAY, MANY YEARS AFTER THE WAR, LORD BRAHMA VISITED HIM.





LORD, IT WILL BE A DIFFICULT TASK FOR ME TO CONCEIVE THE VERSES AND WRITE THEM TOO. I NEED SOMEBODY WHO CAN PUT THEM DOWN AS I DICTATE.



DO NOT WORRY, SAGE VYASA. I HAVE AN ABLE PERSON IN MIND WHO CAN TAKE DOWN YOUR RECITATIONS UNMISTAKABLY.



WHO IS IT LORD?

IT IS LORD GANESHA, LORD SHIVA AND PARVATI'S SON. SINCE HE IS THE GOD OF WISDOM, HE IS BEST SUITED AS YOUR SCRIBE.

SAYING THIS, LORD BRAHMA LEFT. AND SO, IT WAS DECIDED THAT GANESHA WOULD WRITE DOWN THE MAHABHARATA ON SAGE VYASA'S DICTATION.



AFTER LORD BRAHMA LEFT, SAGE VYASA MEDITATED AND INVOKED GANESHA.



LORD GANAPATI, PLEASE ANSWER MY PRAYERS!

AFTER A WHILE...

SAGE VYASA,
OPEN YOUR
EYES.

LORD, I HAVE
BEEN TOLD BY
LORD BRAHMA
TO PRESENT THE
EVENTS OF THE
MAHABHARATA
TO THE WORLD.

LORD, YOU HAVE
COME! I AM SO
GRATEFUL.

TELL ME, WHAT
DO YOU WISH
FOR?

WHAT IS THE
PROBLEM?

LORD, IT WILL BE
IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME
TO COMPOSE, AS
WELL AS TO PUT IT
DOWN IN WRITING.

AT THIS, GANESHA THOUGHT FOR A WHILE AND SAID....

SO, BY THE SUGGESTION OF LORD BRAHMA, I ENTREAT YOU TO BECOME MY SCRIBE AND WRITE DOWN THE MAHABHARATA.

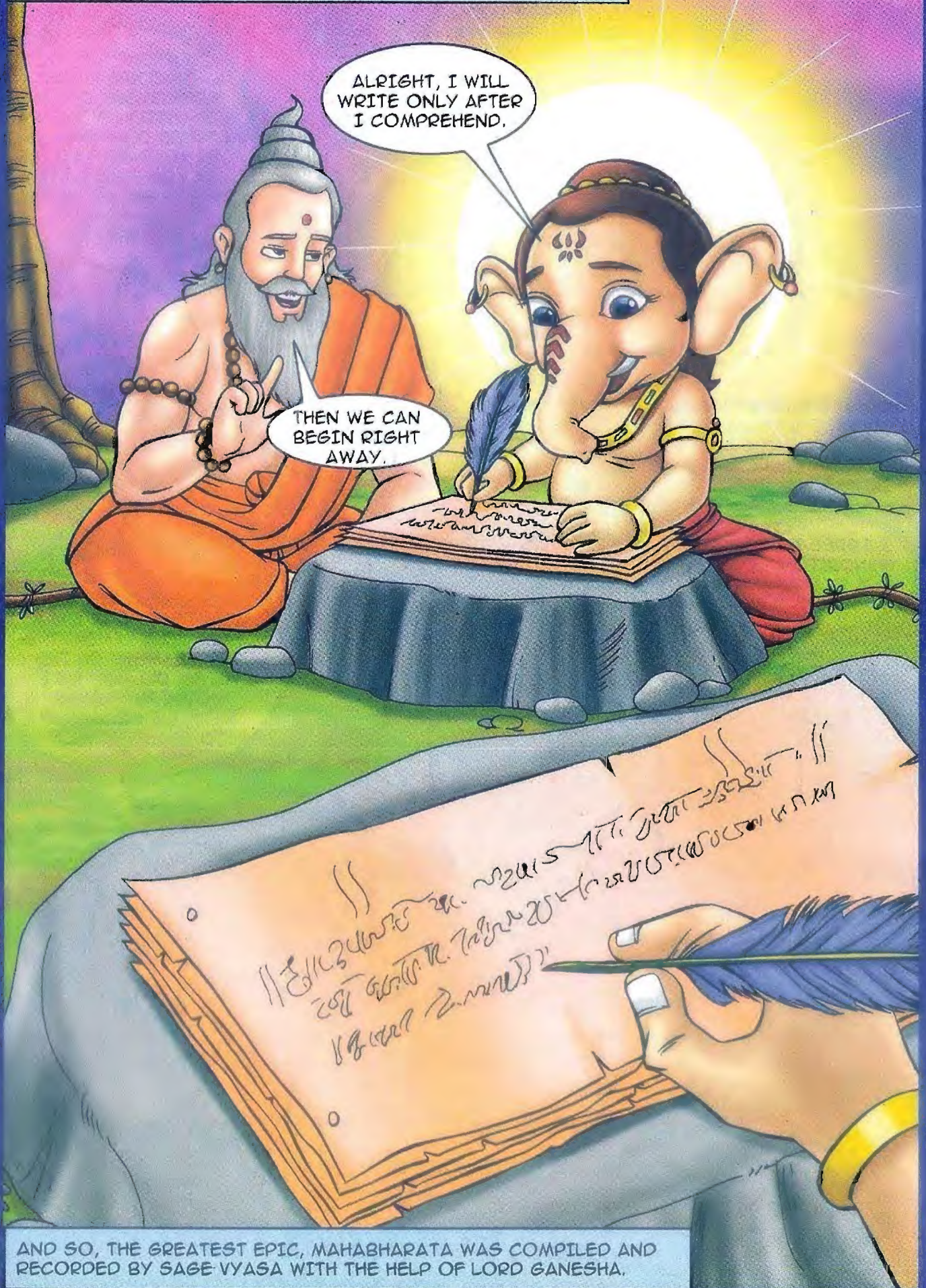
ALRIGHT, I WILL BECOME YOUR SCRIBE, BUT ON ONE CONDITION. YOU HAVE TO BE CONTINUOUS IN YOUR DICTATION. IF YOU PAUSE EVEN FOR A SHORT WHILE, I WILL ABANDON YOU AND GO.

THOUGH THIS SOUNDED DIFFICULT, BUT SAGE VYASA HAD ALREADY FOUND A WAY OUT.

I AGREE TO YOUR CONDITION, LORD, BUT I TOO HAVE A CONDITION.

WHEN I DICTATE, YOU WILL RECORD IT ONLY AFTER COMPREHENDING THE MEANING OF THE VERSE. DO NOT TAKE DOWN ANY VERSE WITHOUT GRASPING ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

THUS, IT WAS DECIDED THAT GANESHA WOULD BE THE SCRIBE OF SAGE VYASA IN RECORDING THE MAHABHARATA.



AND SO, THE GREATEST EPIC, MAHABHARATA WAS COMPILED AND RECORDED BY SAGE VYASA WITH THE HELP OF LORD GANESHA.



Ganesha

The Scribe



This series of graphic novels narrates stories from the life of Lord Ganesha, the elephant-headed God of Indian mythology. These stories are delivered wonderfully in a lucid language. Reading these graphic novels will certainly help young readers to enhance their knowledge, and also provide them immense pleasure.

my friend
GANESHA

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